CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1-3. (canceled)

4. (previously presented): A process for the preparation of amorphous (4R-cis)-6-[2-[3-phenyl-4-(phenylcarbamoyl)-2-(4-flourophenyl)-5-(1-methylethyl)-pyrrol-1-yl]-ethyl]-2,2-dimethyl--[1,3]-dioxane-4-yl-acetic-acid – tertiary butyl ester, which comprises:

a) dissolving crystalline (4R-cis)-6-[2-[3-phenyl-4-(phenylcarbamoyl)-2-(4-flourophenyl)-5-(1-methylethyl)-pyrrol-1-yl]-ethyl]-2,2-dimethyl--[1,3]-dioxane-4-yl-acetic-acid – tertiary butyl ester in an inert organic solvent,

b) concentrating the solution,

c) adding water,

d) precipitating the amorphous product,

e) optionally isolating the precipitated product to obtain amorphous (4R-cis)-6-[2-[3-phenyl-4-(phenylcarbamoyl)-2-(4-flourophenyl)-5-(1-methylethyl)-pyrrol-1-yl]-ethyl]-2,2-dimethyl--[1,3]-dioxane-4-yl-acetic-acid – tertiary butyl ester.

5. (previously presented): The process according to claim 4, wherein the organic solvent is selected from the group of lower C_1-C_4 alkanols.

6. (previously presented): The process according to claim 4, wherein the organic solvent is methanol.

7. (original): The process according to claim 4, wherein the concentration of the solution is performed at reduced pressure to a point where the solution is clear.

8-10. (canceled)

11. (withdrawn): A process for the preparation of amorphous (4R-cis)-6-[2-[3-phenyl-4-(phenylcarbamoyl)-2-(4-flourophenyl)-5-(1-methylethyl)-pyrrol-1-yl]-ethyl]-2,2-dimethyl--[1,3]-dioxane-4-yl-acetic-acid – tertiary butyl ester, which comprises:

a) dissolving crystalline (4R-cis)-6-[2-[3-phenyl-4-(phenylcarbamoyl)-2-(4-flourophenyl)-5-(1-methylethyl)-pyrrol-1-yl]-ethyl]-2,2-dimethyl--[1,3]-dioxane-4-yl-acetic-acid – tertiary butyl ester in an inert organic solvent,

b) evaporation of the inert organic solvent,

c) isolation of the amorphous product.

12.(withdrawn): The process according to claim 11, wherein the dissolving of crystalline (4R-cis)-6-[2-[3-phenyl-4-(phenylcarbamoyl)-2-(4-flourophenyl)-5-(1-methylethyl)-pyrrol-1-yl]-ethyl]-2,2-dimethyl--[1,3]-dioxane-4-yl-acetic-acid – tertiary butyl ester in the inert organic solvent is performed at about room temperature or under heating up to about 60°C.

13.(withdrawn): The process according to claim 11, wherein the inert organic solvent is selected from the group consisting of lower alkanoles, chlorinated lower alkanes, ketones, aromatic hydrocarbons, cyclic ethers and nitriles.

14. (withdrawn): The process according to claim 11, wherein the inert organic solvent is selected from the group consisting of methanol, chloroform, methylene chloride, acetone, benzene, toluene, tetrahydrofuran and acetonitrile.

15. (withdrawn): The process according to claim 11 wherein the isolation of the amorphous product comprises evaporating the inert organic solvent at room or increased temperature and at normal or reduced pressure.

16. (canceled)

17. (withdrawn): (4R-cis)-6-[2-[3-phenyl-4-(phenylcarbamoyl)-2-(4-flourophenyl)-5-(1-methylethyl)-pyrrol-1-yl]-ethyl]-2,2-dimethyl--[1,3]-dioxane-4-yl-acetic-acid – tertiary butyl ester in an solid amorphous form with HPLC purity higher than 85%.

18. (withdrawn): The compound according to claim 17 with HPLC purity higher than 95%.

19. (withdrawn): The compound according to claim 17 with HPLC purity higher than 99%.

20. (withdrawn): The compound according to claim 17 having an X-ray powder diffraction pattern substantially as shown in Figure 1.

21. (withdrawn): The compound according to claim 17 having a DSC thermogram substantially as shown in Figure 2.

22. (withdrawn): A process for the production of atorvastatin calcium comprising the steps of:

a) preparing the solid amorphous (4R-cis)-6-[2-[3-phenyl-4-(phenylcarbamoyl)-2-(4-flourophenyl)-5-(1-methylethyl)-pyrrol-1-yl]-ethyl]-2,2-dimethyl--[1,3]-dioxane-4-yl-acetic-acid – tertiary butyl ester according to claim 4 or 11, and using the solid amorphous (4R-cis)-6-[2-3-phenyl-4-(phenylcarbamoyl)-2-(4-flourophenyl)-5-(1-methylethyl)-pyrrol-1-yl]-ethyl]-2,2-dimethyl—[1,3]-dioxane-4-yl-acetic-acid – tertiary butyl ester in the synthesis of atorvastatin.

23. (canceled)

24. (withdrawn): The process according to claim 22, wherein the atorvastatin is in the form of a calcium salt.

25. (withdrawn): The process according to claim 11, wherein the inert organic solvent is selected from the group consisting of lower alkanoles, chlorinated lower alkanes, ketones, aromatic hydrocarbons, cyclic ethers and nitriles.

26. (withdrawn): The process according to claim 11, wherein the inert organic solvent is selected from the group consisting of methanol, chloroform, methylene chloride, acetone, benzene, toluene, tetrahydrofuran and acetonitrile.

27. (new): The process according to claim 4, wherein the crystalline (4R-cis)-6-[2-[3-phenyl-4-(phenylcarbamoyl)-2-(4-flourophenyl)-5-(1-methylethyl)-pyrrol-1-yl]-ethyl]-2,2-dimethyl--[1,3]-dioxane-4-yl-acetic-acid – tertiary butyl ester is crystalline form I.

28. (new): The process according to claim 4, wherein the crystalline (4R-cis)-6-[2-[3-phenyl-4-(phenylcarbamoyl)-2-(4-flourophenyl)-5-(1-methylethyl)-pyrrol-1-yl]-ethyl]-2,2-dimethyl--[1,3]-dioxane-4-yl-acetic-acid – tertiary butyl ester is crystalline form II.